

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The Textile Museum of Canada is pleased to announce first Canadian presentation of *Frida Kahlo: Through the Lens of Nickolas Muray*, highlighting the significance of traditional Mexican costume to the revolutionary artist

The Textile Museum of Canada is pleased to announce the first Canadian presentation of *Frida Kahlo: Through the Lens of Nickolas Muray* from June 10 to September 7, 2015. Over fifty photographic portraits of renowned Mexican artist Frida Kahlo by her friend and intimate confidant, Hungarian-born photographer Nickolas Muray, are complemented by vibrant artifacts from the Museum's collection of Mexican costume in this unique exhibition, capturing the exceptional persona of one of the 20th century's most iconic artists.

Today Frida Kahlo remains one of the most revolutionary and influential women in modern culture. Taken between 1937 and 1946, the images in this exhibition include stunning colour and black-and-white photographic portraits of Kahlo that bridge art and fashion, photography and portraiture, revealing not only Muray's great artistry but also Kahlo's extraordinary character. "Visitors may in fact recognize images in the exhibition," says TMC Curatorial Director Sarah Quinton, "Many of Muray's portraits of Kahlo have become synonymous with the world's understanding of the woman behind the artwork."

Throughout the photographs, Frida Kahlo appears in the traditional Mexican dress she wore daily – ornate garments that highlight the significance of her personal heritage to Kahlo's identity and self-portraiture. "Her self-image and style really became inseparable," says Quinton. "It was ultimately her fondness for traditional garments and accessories that defined her characteristic flamboyant look." Shown alongside Muray's photographs, textiles from the TMC's Mexican collections as well as select jewellery from the private collection of Carole Tanenbaum accentuate Kahlo's refined appreciation of regional costume and textiles, as well as her understanding of how personal style is also a form of profound artistic expression.

Frida Kahlo: Through the Lens of Nickolas Muray is organized by the Nickolas Muray Photo Archives and circulated by Guest Curator Traveling Exhibitions, presented with the support of the Consulate General of Mexico. The Textile Museum of Canada is located in downtown Toronto (55 Centre Avenue, Toronto, Ontario, M5G 2H5) and is open daily 11-5 pm, Wednesday 11-8 pm. Visit www.textilemuseum.ca for further information regarding all of the TMC's exhibitions and programs.

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